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USSR LAUNCHES NEW VESSELS, EXTENDS SERVICES;  
MANY RIVER CRAFT TRANSFERRED TO VOLGA-DON FLEET

NEW PASSENGER SERVICES OPENED IN BLACK AND CASPIAN SEAS -- Moscow, Izvestiya,  
28 May 53

The Ministry of Ocean and Inland Shipping has announced the opening of the Odessa -- Zhdanov Passenger Ship Line with stops at Kerch', Feodosiya, Yalta, and Sevastopol'.

The diesel-electric ship Rossiya, the motor ships Gruziiya, Pobeda, and Ukraina, and the steamship Petr Velikiy have been put into service on the Crimea-Caucasus Passenger Line.

Passenger traffic on the Baku-Astrakhan' Line will begin this year.

NEW VESSEL CONSTRUCTION IN MOSCOW -- Moscow, Vechernyaya Moskva, 11 Jul 53

Diesel water taxis of the Moskvich type are being built on an assembly line basis in Moscow.

Moscow, Vechernyaya Moskva, 16 Jul 53

The first of a new series of ships has been launched from the Moscow Shipbuilding Plant. These vessels, called "molochnik," are designed to carry milk from areas not accessible to railways and highways.

Outwardly, the molochnik resembles the Moskvich-type ship, but the interior is of special construction. In the compartments which house the passengers' lounge on the Moskvich type, two cylindrical tanks have been installed with a total capacity of 20,000 liters. Special layers of insulation and a cooling system protect the milk against spoilage. The upper decks can be used for carrying passengers if benches are installed.

The ships have a speed of 15-17 kilometers per hour.

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NEW REFRIGERATOR SHIP PUT INTO SERVICE -- Petrozavodsk, Leninskaya Znamya,  
14 Jul 53

On 12 July, the diesel refrigerator ship Gruzinya made her initial voyage on the Dnepr River from Kiev to Kherson. The ship's holds are insulated to maintain a temperature of minus 8 degrees.

VESSEL TRAFFIC AND LAYOVER IN THE FAR EASTERN BASIN -- Moscow, Vodnyy Transport,  
20 Aug 53

The motor ship Kuril'sk is running fish from the coast of the Okhotsk Sea directly to Komsomol'sk-on-Amur.

The vessels Ivan Zemnukhov, Sozh, Ob', Rybnovsk, Akademik Krylov, and Professor Popov have also been assigned to fish-shipment points along the Okhotsk coast.

The steamships Shaturstroy and Goncharov have put in along the Okhotsk shore, and the motor ship Sergey Tyulenin has put in on the eastern shore of Kamchatka. All were loaded with food products (flour, wine, tea, sugar) and manufactured goods (clothing, footwear, fabrics).

The steamship Kiev has arrived in the western corner of Kamchatka with a load of coal, and the vessels Mirgorod and Uglich are towing timber rafts in the area.

All these vessels are to be reloaded with fish products after unloading cargo in order that they may continue to Far Eastern Basin ports. However, this turnover is being delayed.

According to established norms, the ships Ivan Zemnukhov, Sozh, and Rybnovsk should be able to unload and take on fish products in 4 days. One ship, the Rybnovsk, has already stood idle 11 days, and the Ob' 7. The steamship Goncharov was unloaded in 25 days instead of 4 as planned. The motor ship Akademik Krylov lay on the coast of western Kamchatka more than a month instead of 12 days as planned.

NEW INLAND PASSENGER SERVICE -- Vil'nyus, Sovetskaya Litva, 18 Jul 53

The new diesel passenger ship Rassvet, with a carrying capacity of 255 passengers, will be put into service on the Tsimlyanskaya Reservoir.

Leningrad, Leningradskaya Pravda, 6 Jun 53

The Northwestern Steamship Company has announced regular passenger traffic between Leningrad and Medvezh'ya Gora. The passenger ships Volodarskiy and Uritskiy will make the trip from Leningrad to Medvezh'ya Gora in 3 days, going by way of Lake Ladoga, the Svir' River, and Lake Onega.

Stops will be made at Petrokrepost', Svritsa, Lodeynoye Pole, Podporozhiye, Voznesen'ye, and Petrozavodsk.

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VESSELS COMMENDED FOR OUTSTANDING WORK PERFORMED -- Moscow, Vodnyy Transport, 18 Aug 53

The Ministry of Ocean and Inland Shipping and the VTsSPS (All-Union Central Council of Trade Unions) have commended the following vessels for outstanding work performed:

The icebreaker Mikoyan, of the Vladivostok Arctic Sea Steamship Company [this is the first press mention seen in FDD of this shipping company]; the Kril'on and Sovetskaya neft', of the Far East Steamship Company; the steamships Yaroslavl' and Narva of the Sakhalin Steamship Company; the motor ship Korsakov of the Kamchatka-Chukotsk Steamship Company; the steamship Kokkinaku of the Moscow-Oka Steamship Company; the motor ships Marshal Voroshilov, Anatolyy Serov, and Admiral Nakhimov, of the Volga Freight and Passenger Steamship Company; the ST-30 of the Sheksna Steamship Company; the steamship Pozharskiy of the Western Siberian Steamship Company; the motor ships Sukhumi and Irkutsk of the Danube Steamship Company; the steamship Mius of the Port of Odessa; the Livadiya, Panagoriya, and Krasnodon of the Azov Steamship Company; the steamships Pestel' and Lermontov of the Black Sea Steamship Company; the Baku, the UKN(b), the Agamali-Ogly, Valeriy Chkalov, Chinkent, Fioletov, Besstrashnyy, Boykiy, and Kamyshin of the Caspian Steamship Company; and the steamship Bakinets of Reydtanker.

SEVASTOPOL' IN SERVICE FROM LENINGRAD TO FAR NORTH -- Vil'nyus, Sovetskaya Litva, 18 Jul 53

The steamship Sevastopol' has departed from Leningrad with 1,000 tons of food and manufactured goods for delivery to settlements in the Far North. [As far as can be determined from a picture accompanying the above item, the Sevastopol' mentioned is not a liberty ship and therefore not the steamship Sevastopol' which was identified by NIS 26, Section 36, as the former US Line vessel De Witt Clinton.]

RIVER SHIPMENT OF GRAIN FROM THE NEW HARVEST -- Vil'nyus, Sovetskaya Litva, 18 Jul 53

The motor ship Tatariya under the command of Captain Sharov has completed the voyage from Krasnoarmeysk to Gor'kiy with 2,175 tons of grain from the new harvest. Her average speed during the voyage was 10-15 kilometers per hour.

The steamship Molodaya Gvardiya has arrived in Gomel' from Kakhovka with grain from the new harvest.

Moscow, Pravda, 21 Jul 53

The Volga Freight Steamship Company is currently engaged in the transport of grain from the new harvest. The motor ship Belorussiya has arrived in Yaroslavl' from Krasnoarmeysk with 2,800 tons of Kuban wheat.

The Volga Freight Steamship Company is using both steamships and barges to transport grain.

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MOVEMENT OF RIVER CRAFT BOUND FOR VOLGA-DON FLEET -- Moscow, Vodnyy Transport, 15 Aug 53

The new lake diesel ship Przheval'skiy has successfully towed river craft across the Black and Azov seas for delivery to the Volga-Don fleet.

Moscow, Vodnyy Transport, 30 Jul 53

The towing of river craft across the Black and Azov seas is continuing. Passenger vessels, cargo ships, tugs, and barges have been dispatched from Odessa under tow by seagoing tugs bound for Zhdanov; the final destination is Rostov-on-Don, from which point they will be delivered to the Volga-Don fleet.

The towing vessels Toros and Chernomor have alone delivered ten tows of river steamers, diesels, and barges.

The present navigation season marks the first use of the lake tugs Admiral Makarov, Nevel'skoy, Przheval'skiy, and Malygin. They have delivered 5 tows of river craft across the Black and Azov seas.

On 29 July, the Toros arrived in Zhdanov with a tow of 12 river craft including the diesel-electric passenger ship Gruziya, nine river tugs, and two barges. The same day the tug Nevel'skoy delivered five river craft.

DEEP WATER TIMBER RAFTS IN THE FAR EAST -- Moscow, Vodnyy Transport, 15 Aug 53

The steamship General Panfilov has taken a timber raft of 2,000 cubic meters in tow from the port of Sovetskaya Gavan' to Kamchatka. This is the 16th raft dispatched in the last 2 months.

Ocean rafting was begun in the Far East in 1948.

EXTEND USE OF PUSHING METHOD OF BARGE PROPULSION -- Moscow, Vodnyy Transport, 15 Aug 53

The dispatcher on the lower Irtysh Steamship Company line has increased the use of the new pushing method of barge propulsion. In May, 63,000 tons of freight were carried by this method in 11 self-propelled and 42 powerless vessels. In June, the freight carried by this method was twice that of May, with 22 self-propelled and 72 powerless vessels being used.

Moscow, Vodnyy Transport, 28 Jul 53

The success of the pushing method of barge propulsion has aroused considerable interest among shippers in the small rivers of the Krasnoyarsk region. In the present navigation season, the pushing method has been instituted in the upper reaches of the Chulym River.

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The first vessel to attempt this new method was the 90-horsepower motor launch Tomich. The results of this trial indicated excellent possibilities: a reduction in fuel consumption from 162 to 108 kilograms per hour, and a saving of 2 kilograms of oil.

The steamship Podarok Rodine has made the voyage from Achinsk to the village of Sekretarka and back using the pushing method with good results.

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